1: Whiting, John W. M. Becoming a Kwoma; teaching and learning in a New Guinea tribe. New Haven, Published for the Institute of Human Relations by Yale University Press, 1941.

19, 226 p.; 8 plates; 2 charts; map; index.

Yale: Nkd99 N4 941w.

[This study describes in detail the socialization process of the Kwoma individual. Young children are treated with very great indulgence, and scolding and beating are practiced in moderation in disciplining older children. The males have to undergo several age grade ceremonies in which certain religious secrets are revealed to them and scarification is practiced. Only after he has been initiated into the highest grade is a man permitted to plant yams. Headhunting, traditionally a source for personal merit, seems to have almost vanished under the pressure of the colonial administration. The author presents data which are primarily on males, since his sex did not permit more than superficial contact with Kwoma females. Also, data on the earliest phases of infancy are limited, since during the first three months of life, a baby is not allowed to be observed by anybody else than the closest family members; this, to prevent it from being harmed by sorcery.]

Field date: 1936-1937
Analysts: Sigrid Khera, marker
Helen Bornstein, checker

Evaluation: Ethnologist-5
Processed in 1971-1974

2: Whiting, John Wesley Mayhew. Kwoma journal. HRAFLEX Book OJ13-001. New Haven, Human Relations Area Files, 1970.

4, 247 p.; map; 20 text figures; vocabulary.

HRAF copy.

[As a field journal, this book gives insight into various kinds of situations in the field, and elucidates the character of certain informants. It is, however, too disorganized to present a full ethnographic picture of Kwoma culture. Interpersonal relations among the Kwoma people seem to be characterized by a strong individualism in respect to property. This volume should be read as a supplement to 1: Whiting, this file.]

Field date: Sept. 1936-May 1937
Analysts: Sigrid Khera, marker
Helen Bornstein, checker

Evaluation: Ethnologist-5
Processed in 1971-1974